

REMARKS

The office action of April 27, 2006, has been carefully considered.

It is noted claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the patent to Talbot.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Talbot.

In view of the Examiner's rejections of the claims, applicant has amended claims 1-3.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims now on file particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended the claims to address the instances of indefiniteness cited by the Examiner.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted

that the rejection of claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is overcome and should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims presently on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the reference.

Turning now to the reference, it can be seen that the patent to Talbot discloses a roll mounting. Applicant submits that Talbot does not disclose the presently claimed invention. Talbot and the present are based on different objectives. Talbot has the objective of preventing so-called hammering of the upper support rolls, while the present invention adjusts the contact plane of this roll on the working roll. Although both Talbot and the present invention both provide additional external bearings on the neck of the roll and impart radial pulling forces on the bearing, Talbot does so in a manner different than the presently claimed invention. Talbot does so with projections 36, 37 arranged in a window in the rolling stand 2. The projections 36, 37 grasp a cylinder chuck set on a bearing 16. The projections 36, 37 are connected with the yoke 41 by links 33, 38. The yoke 41 extends into the roll stand 1 and rests with its two ends on piston/cylinder arrangements 42, 43 arranged on brackets in the

roll stand. In the presently claimed invention, on the other hand, a further housing LG is attached to an end face of the bearing chock LS of the roll neck WZ. The housing ZG encloses a radial bearing RA that is set on the neck extension ZA of the roll. A piston SK is arranged in a radial bore RB in the housing LG. The piston is connected via a bore with a pressure fluid. Via the piston SK a radial bending force can be applied to the neck extension ZA of the roll SW.

The construction of Talbot requires an extensive construction effort, namely a particular construction of the roll stand, particularly both brackets and the window that need to accept both hydraulic cylinders 43, the connectors 34 and the yoke 41. These components must be disassembled and then reassembled when the roll is changed.

The presently claimed invention can, on the other hand be used in any convention roll stand without the need for complicated modifications of the stand and the window, since the components for imparting the bending force on the roll are mounted in the bearing elements themselves of the roll. With the presently claimed invention, contrary to the complex disassembly of Talbot, the roll can be conventionally removed from or placed into the

roll stand with the bearing components on both necks.

Applicant respectfully submits that Talbot does not disclose the presently claimed invention as discussed above and recited in the claims.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and the rejection of claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the above-discussed reference are overcome and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with this application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on July 27, 2006.

By: 
Friedrich Kueffner

Date: July 27, 2006